

Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Eatonton City Hall, 201 North Jefferson Avenue, Eatonton, Georgia 31024

Present:

Mayor John Reid
Mayor Pro-tem Chip Walker, Jr.
Councilman Alvin Butts
Councilwoman Teresa Doster
Councilman James Gorley
Councilman Jim Hall, Jr.

(Absent) Councilman William Mangum, Jr.
Councilwoman Alma Stokes

City Attorney Chris Huskins
City Administrator, Dan Elmore

Mayor John Reid called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilman James Gorley gave the invocation.

Public Comments:

Mainstreet Director Katy Smith submitted report:

1. Economic Development/DDA:

- a. Had meeting on June 28th and scheduled next meeting with Carmine Fischetti, Community Design Specialist for DCA for Thursday, July 28th. This meeting will be to discussing concepts and options for downtown.
- b. Had Merchant meeting on Wednesday, June 22. This meeting discussed upcoming sales promotions and ideas for downtown.
- c. Have had some businesses close this month: Cornerstone Consignment, Trunks to Treasures (Peck Theatre) and Wanderlust will be vacating its location as of August 1.

2. Design/ Tree Board

Nothing to report at this time

3. Promotions:

- a. Farmer's Market continues to do well. Averages about 5 vendors a week.
- b. Movies in the Briar Patch will be this Saturday night beginning at 8:30pm on the Courthouse Lawn. We are showing Ghostbusters.
- c. Plans are underway to the Briar Patch Festival. Print ads and rack cards are currently being created. Vendor and sponsorship applications are already coming in.

4. Katy's Items:

- a. GICH meeting will be held tomorrow 10am at the Hut. Committee heads will be reporting on the Adopt-A-House Program, the grant we have received to

work with the Regional Commission on our policies and ordinances and the Family Connection's Housing and Financial Fitness Day. All information on what we are working on will be compiled into a power point presentation that will be shown at the retreat in Athens, August 8-10.

- b. Wrote article for paper and currently working with them on new advertising campaign for downtown.
- c. Attended the Coffee Connections program at the Chamber on June 28th. Very casual time for business owners to come together and discuss issues they are dealing with. Very informative.
- d. Currently working with 2 interested parties for downtown restaurants and one interested in a Bed & Breakfast.
- e. We will host the Regional Mainstreet Managers at the Plaza on Tuesday the 26th.
- f. Awarded \$5,000, 00 GICH Grant.

Motion was made by Stokes and seconded by Doster to approve the minutes of the last meeting with any necessary corrections. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Gorley to approve the proposed **Contract** with the **Eatonton-Putnam Chamber of Commerce** and authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Councilwoman Teresa Doster representing the (DDA) Downtown Development Authority talked to Council about the City deeding the newly acquired warehouse property off South Jefferson Avenue to the DDA, so that it can be demolished and the bricks sold to make room for a parking lot. Doster also talked about selling the bricks from chimneys on Aluminum Mill Hill. The request proposed by DDA will be turned over to the Streets, Building and Grounds Committee.

Motion was made by Butts and seconded by Walker to adopt the proposed **Resolution** to select an **Easement Service Contractor for Gas Easements in Putnam County** and authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Motion was made by Gorley and seconded by Doster to adopt the proposed **Resolution** to **select the engineer for reconstruction of Merchants' Way** and authorize Mayor Reid to sign. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-1.

P. C. Simonton submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$6,700.00.

Committees Reports:

Councilman Walker talked about reviewing and approving the FY 2012 Budget at next months' Council meeting; therefore he was calling a Finance and Personnel Committee meeting for Friday, July 22 at noon in City Hall.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Doster to pay bills if and when funds become available. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

Councilwoman Doster acknowledged the Eatonton Fire and Police Departments quick response to a fire at her resident on Monday.

Councilwoman Doster advised the buyer of the 2 houses on Aluminum Mill Hill will be moving the houses soon. The DDA did not set a timetable for the buyer to move the buildings off the property.

Councilwoman Stokes advised GICH meets Wednesday at the Hut at 10 am. The City of Eatonton GICH team members will be attending a workshop in Athens August 8-10, 2011.

Stokes reminded Council that a LOST renegotiation meeting is scheduled at the Putnam County Courthouse July 13, 2011 at 5pm.

Stokes advised Police Chief Lawrence has been released from the hospital and is at home and Mayor Reid is the 1st Vice President of Georgia Municipal Association.

City Administrator Dan Elmore Report to City Council:

- 1- Construction bids on the new gas line north to the lake were opened today. We had 5 bidders. RAW construction is the apparent low bidder at \$1,566,000. RAW is the current pipeline construction company. The engineer is going over the bids to make sure all the terms were met.
- 2- The Bid for the 2010 CDBG road, curb, and gutter and drainage project was opened last week. We had 5 bidders. ISC, INC. is the apparent low bidder at \$877,000. The work will be from Oconee at Sumter all the way past MLK and the south sides of Grand and Putnam Avenues. The engineer is going over the bids to make sure all the terms were met.
- 3- I want to remind everyone the LOST meeting with the county is tomorrow afternoon at 5 pm in the west courtroom.
- 4- Chief is home from the hospital.
- 5- Met with Norfolk Southern Railroad concerning Sumter Street crossing on Hwy 16, they advised the road will be closed for 2 days in August while repairs are being made and again in September after Labor Day to install crossing arms. The Railroad has advised crossing arms will be installed at each railroad crossing throughout the City.

Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Butts to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

John Reid, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sarah E. Abrams
City Clerk